

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A chip card ~~(10)~~ characterized in that it comprises, comprising: ~~in order to authenticate the person holding the card~~, a sensor for spectral information relating to the skin of the person holding the chip card between his thumb and index finger in order to authenticate the person holding the card.
2. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sensor comprises at least one light-emitting diode ~~[(12)]~~ and one photodiode ~~[(14)]~~.
3. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the light-emitting diodes and the photodiodes are mounted on a flexible substrate ~~[(50)]~~ comprising electrical interconnecting tracks ~~[(60)]~~ between the light-emitting diodes and the photodiodes on the one hand and the card chip ~~on the other hand~~.
4. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the flexible substrate is inserted between two sheets of plastic material, a transparent window ~~[(75)]~~ being provided above the light-emitting diodes on the one hand and the photodiodes ~~on the other hand~~.
5. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim~~[(s)]~~ 2 to 4, ~~characterized in that~~ it comprises comprising light-emitting diodes and photodiodes on either side of the card to perform spectral recognition on the two digits holding the card.
6. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim~~[(s)]~~ 2 to 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one light-emitting diode emits in an absorption spectral band of blood.

7. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 2 to 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it furthermore comprises comprising one of means of measuring the cardiac pulse ~~and/or~~ and means of evaluating the oxyhemoglobin rate, in order to enhance the authentication of the person.

8. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 2 to 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it comprises comprising light-emitting diodes emitting at different wavelengths.

9. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it comprises comprising at least one photodiode incorporated in the chip.

10. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the chip comprises comprising electronic means of processing spectral information from the sensor, to allow authentication of the person holding the card.

11. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the chip comprises comprising a memory containing stored biometric data relating to the card holder.

12. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 11, ~~characterized in that~~ it furthermore comprises comprising means for detecting the holding of the card between the thumb and index finger to start the acquisition of spectral information by the sensor.

13. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in ~~one of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 1, ~~characterized in that~~ it comprises comprising other means of authenticating the person, to

enhance the security of the authentication process, these means being on the card or using information originating from outside the card.

14. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the additional authentication means is a static or scanning-based fingerprint sensor, in particular optical.

15. (currently amended): The chip card as claimed in ~~one of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 1, ~~characterized in that~~ it comprises comprising at least one light-emitting diode controlled by the chip, to provide visual information relating to the authentication operation.

16. (new): The chip card as claimed in claim 3, comprising light-emitting diodes and photodiodes on either side of the card to perform spectral recognition on the two digits holding the card.

17. (new): The chip card as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one light-emitting diode emits in an absorption spectral band of blood.

18. (new): The chip card as claimed in claim 3, wherein it furthermore ~~comprises~~ comprising one of means of measuring the cardiac pulse and means of evaluating the oxyhemoglobin rate, in order to enhance the authentication of the person.

19. (new): The chip card as claimed in claim 3, wherein it comprising light-emitting diodes emitting at different wavelengths.

20. (new): The chip card as claimed in claim 2, furthermore comprising means for detecting the holding of the card between the thumb and index finger to start the acquisition of spectral information by the sensor.